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River Street Fest Set to Blast Off SATURDAY

For Immediate Release

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(June 18, 2004- TROY)- Mayor Harry Tutunjian, City officials, and River Street Merchants said Friday that River Street Festival planning is complete, and the festival will be a rousing success on Saturday.

The fun begins in historic downtown Troy at 10 a.m. TOMORROW, and runs through 5 p.m., when national recording artists The Fleshtones wrap up the day's entertainment.

"When we say we have something for everyone, we mean it," Tutunjian said. "From music to magic, arts to antiques, and food to fun, Saturday will be the place to be in the Capital District."

On the entertainment side of things, there are the ten bands performing Saturday: Thee Ummm, The Buckadellics!!!, The Sharks, Folding Sky, Raisenhead, Sean Rowe, Erin Harkes, Chris Busone, Jackinany, and of course, the Fleshtones. Award-winning magician Jeffrey Jene will be on hand performing street magic, and the Troy Fire Department will be giving children rides on one of its engines. Albany Broadcasting will also be providing live remotes from the festival.

When it comes to arts, crafts, and antiques, it will be tough to top the lineup of more than 60 vendors, each of whom has gone through a juried system to ensure that only the best of the best will be on hand Saturday. If you can imagine it, it will be in downtown Troy on Saturday.

And then there is the food, ranging from barbecued ribs to Italian Ice; there will be something for everyone.

"This is the perfect way to get the summer started," Tutunjian said. "The weather is going to be perfect. The atmosphere will be fabulous, and I truly believe that everyone will have a great time. Encourage everyone you know to stop down and experience what downtown Troy can be."

City officials are expecting at least several thousand people to take part in the festival and will make it an annual event in years to come. Sponsors for the event include Bonded Concrete, Fleet Bank, Albany Broadcasting, and the Time Union.